

Subject Clean Water Fund

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Summary

This bill contains supplemental appropriations from the clean water fund. The clean water fund is one of the four funds established by the “Legacy Amendment” passed by the voters in 2008. The fund may only be spent “to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater from degradation” and at least five percent must be spent to protect drinking water sources.

The supplemental appropriations, totaling \$7,180,000, are for fiscal year 2021 and include:

- \$250,000 for the Forever Green agriculture initiative;
- \$492,000 for the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) to establish water quality standards for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS);
- \$488,000 for conservation easements and perennial vegetation/cover crops on wellhead protection areas;
- \$250,000 for the Department of Health (MDH) to amend the health risk limit for perfluorooctane sulfonate;
- \$1,750,000 for MDH to address public health concerns related to contaminants found in drinking water that do not have health-based drinking water standards;
- \$750,000 for MDH to study contaminants in private wells, including microplastics and nanoplastics;
- \$500,000 to the Metropolitan Council for local inflow and infiltration reduction programs; and
- \$2,700,000 to the University of Minnesota to study water’s role in transporting chronic wasting disease (CWD) prions.



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